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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners: Ruth Y. Goldway, Chairman;

Nanci E. Langley, Vice Chairman;

Mark Acton;

Tony Hammond; and

Robert G. Taub

Post Office Box Service Enhancements

Docket No. MC2012-26

NOTICE AND ORDER CONCERNING ELECTIVE FILING REGARDING POST OFFICE BOX SERVICE ENHANCEMENTS

(Issued July 12, 2012)

I. INTRODUCTION

In Docket No. C2012-1, the Associated Mail and Parcel Centers, the National Alliance of Retail and Ship Centers, and 11 additional organizations (Complainants) jointly filed a complaint with the Commission concerning the Postal Service's introduction of enhanced services that it offers to post office box customers at certain retail locations.¹ The Postal Service filed a motion to dismiss the Complaint.²

In Order No. 1366, the Commission denied the Motion to Dismiss as to Complainants' claims under sections 3633 and 3642, and gave the Postal Service the

¹ Complaint Regarding Postal Service Offering Enhanced Services Product for Competitive PO Boxes, March 15, 2012 (Complaint).

² Motion of the United States Postal Service to Dismiss Complaint, April 4, 2012 (Motion to Dismiss).

option of making an elective filing under 39 CFR 3020.30, concerning the enhancements to its competitive Post Office Box service.³ The Commission ordered that the Complaint be held in abeyance until July 9, 2012, to permit the Postal Service to make the elective filing. This docket was established as a placeholder for the Postal Service's elective filing. *Id.*

On July 9, 2012, pursuant to 39 CFR 3020.30 *et seq.*, the Postal Service filed an elective pleading designed to provide the Commission with additional information to aid in its review of service enhancements that the Postal Service introduced at certain competitive post office box locations.⁴ The Response, which summarizes the procedural history of the proceeding, includes three attachments. Attachment A discusses the service enhancements' compliance with the requirements listed in 39 CFR 3020.31. Attachment B provides a statement of supporting justification addressing the criteria set forth in 39 CFR 3020.32. Attachment C is a copy of the customer agreement for Post Office Box service which describes the service enhancements and explains the customer's responsibilities.

II. NOTICE OF FILINGS

Pursuant to Commission Order No. 1366, Docket No. MC2012-26 has been established to consider the Postal Service's filing under 39 CFR 3020.30.

Interested persons may submit comments on issues raised by the Response, including its consistency with the policies of 39 U.S.C. 3633 and 3642, 39 CFR 3015.4, and 39 CFR part 3020, subpart B. Comments are due no later than July 31, 2012. Reply comments may be filed no later than August 8, 2012.

The Response and all filings in this proceeding and Docket No. C2012-1 can be accessed via the Commission's website (http://www.prc.gov).

³ Docket No. C2012-1, Order on Motion to Dismiss Holding Complaint in Abeyance Pending Further Proceeding, June 13, 2012, at 15 (Order No. 1366).

⁴ Response of the United States Postal Service to Order No. 1366, July 9, 2012 (Response).

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The Commission appoints Robert N. Sidman to serve as Public Representative

in these dockets.

III. ORDERING PARAGRAPHS

It is ordered:

1. Comments concerning the Postal Service's filing are due no later than July

31, 2012.

2. Reply comments are due no later than August 8, 2012.

3. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Robert N. Sidman is appointed to serve as an officer

of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the

general public in these proceedings.

4. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this Order in the *Federal Register*.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove Secretary